Current Status of Claims

1. (*currently amended*) A method related to ordering lottery tickets in a lottery associated with a person's receipt of return value in trade in goods, establishing in connection with an order a communication link between a point-of-trade and a central, external database server (computer), information elements being transferred to the central database server, the information elements being registered in the database server, and communication being made back from the database server to the point-of-trade that lottery tickets have been allocated, characterized in

- **using as point-of-trade a reverse vending machine for receiving empty packaging in the form of bottles and/or cans for beverages having said return value,**

- reserving a number of lottery tickets or shares in the lottery upon registration of information elements in the database server **corresponding to return value of empty packaging received by the reverse vending machine**, and in addition communicating back from the database server to the point-of-trade such reservation together with other information elements, and

- either: confirming through action from said person lottery ticket order to cause issuance of lottery ticket with lottery number(s) and serial number/control code, sending confirmation from the point-of-trade to the database server via the communication link that lottery ticket has been issued to the person, and storing actual lottery number(s) thereby in the database server,

- or: issuing to said person a ~~receipt for cash payment~~ **return value receipt**:
    - a) if through action of said person those in the database reserved lottery tickets or lottery shares are caused to be cancelled, or
    - b) upon failure in said communication link[~~, and~~]

- ~~using as point of trade a return vending machine for receiving empty packaging in the form of bottles and/or cans for beverages having said return value.~~

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2.   (*currently amended*) A method related to ordering lottery tickets in a lottery in association with a person's receipt of a return value in trade in goods, the return value usable for buying lottery tickets, a communication link in connection with an order intended to be established

5   between a point-of-trade and a central, external database server (computer), where it is intended to transfer to the central database server information elements for registering in the database server and subsequent communication back from the database server to the point-of-trade that lottery tickets have been allocated, characterized in

10   -   using as the point-of-trade a ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine for receiving empty packaging like bottles and/or cans for beverages having a return value,

      -     allocating from a local database in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine a lottery ticket based on the monetary value or the return value which

15   has been staked and which corresponds to the return value of returned empty packaging, and with information applied upon the person's activation of a device on the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine for desired purchase of lottery tickets ~~and~~ when a communication link between the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine and a central, external

20   database server (computer) arbitrarily cannot be established,

      -     upon the established communication link transferring from the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine to the central database server information elements elected from the group: ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine identity, time for stake, lottery number series, e.g. with start and end

25   numbers, lottery tickets serial number or control code, monetary value of stake, number of lottery tickets, draw time, deadline for playing the lottery, person related identification, and

      -     registering the information elements in the database server and adding to the lottery series of the lottery tickets to participate in a lottery draw.

3. (*original*) A method as disclosed in claim 2, characterized in

- pre-allocating the lottery ticket number series to the reverse vending machine when the reverse vending machine has a communication link with the database server; said

5   the lottery ticket serial number or control code either being allocated randomly from a serial number/control code package downloaded in the reverse vending machine from the database server, or generated locally in the reverse vending machine using an algorithm.

4. (*previously presented*) A method as disclosed in claim 1, characterized in

- establishing the communication line via a TCP/IP network.

5. (*previously presented*) A method as disclosed claim 1, characterized in

- checking in the database server the identity of the reverse vending machine against an identity-related address register to be able to

5   announce where winning lottery tickets have been issued.

6. (*previously presented*) A method as disclosed in claim 1, characterized in

- that the serial number or control code of the ticket is unique to the issued lottery ticket.

7. (*original*) A method as disclosed in claim 6, characterized in

- that the control code is generated non-serially in the database server.

8. (*previously presented*) A method according to claim 1, characterized in

- that the information elements are selected from the group consisting of:

- the identity of the reverse vending machine,

- the time of the stake

- the monetary value of the stake, which corresponds to the return value of the returned empty packaging,

- customer-related identification;

- a ticket number series, e.g. with start and end number,

- the serial number or control code of the ticket

- the monetary value of the stake,

- the number of tickets,

- the time of the draw,

- the deadline for playing the lottery,

- graphic elements,

- optional guiding information.

9. (*currently amended*) A system related to ordering lottery tickets in a lottery associated with a person's receipt of return value upon trade in goods, where the return value can be used for purchase of lottery tickets, wherein in connection with the ordering there is established a

5   communication link between a point-of-trade and a central, external database server (computer), wherein there is transferred to the central database server information elements, wherein information elements are registered in the database server, and wherein there is communicated back from the database server to the point-of-trade that lottery tickets have been allocated,

10   characterized in

-        that the point-of-trade is a ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine for return of empty packaging, such as e.g. bottles and/or cans for beverages,

-        registration and reservation means in the database server which upon registration of information elements being capable of reserving a

15   number of lottery tickets or shares in the lottery **corresponding to return value of empty packaging received by the reverse vending machine** and in addition communicating back to the point-of-trade such reservation together with other information elements,

-        operating means on the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine designed to

20   receive from the person confirmation action of lottery order,

-        means in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine capable of causing either: confirmation to be sent from the point-of-trade to the database server via the communication link that lottery tickets are issued to the person, to store in the database server actual lottery number(s), or: issuance of

25   a **return value** receipt ~~for cash payment~~ if a) said person instead chooses through activation of operating means on the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine to cancel those in the database server reserved lottery tickets or lottery shares or b) upon failure in said communication link.

10. (*currently amended*) System related to ordering lottery tickets in a lottery associated with a person's receipt of a return value in trade in goods, wherein the return value can be used for lottery ticket purchase, wherein in connection with the ordering there is intended to be established a

5   communication link between a point-of-trade and a central, external database server (computer), and wherein it is intended to be transferred to the central database server information elements for registering in the database server and subsequent communication back from the database server to the point-of-trade that tickets have been allocated, characterized in

10   -   that the point-of-trade is a ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine for receiving empty packaging such as bottles and/or cans for beverages,

     -     that operating means are located on the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine to receive confirmation from the person about required purchase of lottery tickets when a communication link between the ~~return~~ **reverse**

15   vending machine and a central, external database server (computer) arbitrarily is not to be established,

     -     allocating means in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine to allocate from a local database in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine a lottery ticket based on the monetary value or the return value which has been put at

20   stake and which corresponds to the return value of the returned empty packaging, and with information applied thereon,

     -     transfer means in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine adapted to upon re-established communication link to transfer from the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine to the central database server information elements

25   elected from the group: ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine identity, time of the stake, lottery ticket number series, e.g. which start and end number, lottery ticket serial number or control code, monetary value of the stake, number of tickets, time of the draw, deadline for playing the lottery, person related identification, and

30   -   registering means in the database server which registers the information elements and supplies the lottery series to the lottery tickets to a ~~participate~~ **participant** in the lottery draw.

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11. (*currently amended*) A system using a ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine to handle a return value of empty packaging, e.g. empty packaging in the form of bottles, cans or containers for beverages and nutrition means, wherein the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine has first and second devices for letting a person indicate either by activating the first device that there is to be issued a receipt related to the return value of the empty packaging for subsequent cash payment from the receiver of the empty packaging, or by activating the second device that the return value of the empty packaging is to be used in a different way, characterized in

- ordering means in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine which upon the activation by the person of the second device is capable of ordering participation in a lottery with a number of lottery tickets related to return values of the empty packaging, and to activate via a communication line a link to a central database server (computer), and

- issuing means for upon a registered communication failure in the link with the database server instead to issue a **return value receipt** ~~receipt for cash payment~~.

12. (*currently amended*) System related to ordering lottery tickets in a lottery associated with a person's receipt of a return value in trade in goods, wherein the return value can be used for lottery ticket purchase, wherein in connection with the ordering there is intended to be

5 established a communication link between a point-of-trade and a central, external database server (computer), wherein it is intended to be transferred to the central database server information elements for registering in the database server and subsequent communication back from the database server to the point-of-trade that tickets have been allocated, characterized in

10 - that the point-of-trade is a ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine for receiving empty packaging, such as bottles and/or cans for beverages,

- operating means ~~means~~ in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine which can be activated by the person, said means being capable upon non-establishable communication link between the return vending machine

15 and a central, external database server (computer) to allocate to the person from a local database in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine a lottery ticket based on:

- return value which has been put at stake and which corresponds to the return value of the returned empty packaging, and with information

20 applied,

- issuing means in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine for issuing the lottery ticket,

- transfer means in the ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine which upon re-established communication link enables transfer to the central

25 database server of information elements, and

- registering means in the database server to enable registration of information elements and to supply the lottery series to the lottery tickets to participate in a lottery draw.

13. (*original*) A system as disclosed in claim 12, characterized in

-    that the reverse vending machine has a unit designed to receive pre-allocated lottery ticket number series from the database server when the reverse vending machine has a communication link with the database server; and

-    that said unit is capable of receiving a download from the database server of a lottery ticket serial number or control code package and to allocate issued lottery tickets serial numbers or control code selectably, e.g., randomly from the package, or generated locally in the reverse vending machine using an algorithm.

14. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 9, characterised in

-    that the serial number or control code that is provided on the lottery ticket is a code that is unique to the issued lottery ticket.

15. (*original*)A system as disclosed in claim 14, characterised in

-    that the serial number or control code is generated non-serially.

16. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 9, characterised in

-    that the issuing means is a printer, e.g., a thermal printer.

17. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 9, characterized in

- that the information elements are selectable from the group of: ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine identity, time of stake, lottery ticket number series, e.g. with start and end number, lottery ticket serial number or control code, monetary value of the stake, number of tickets, the time of the draw, the deadline for playing the lottery, customer related identification, graphic elements, optional guiding information.

18. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 10, characterised in

- that the serial number or control code that is provided on the lottery ticket is a code that is unique to the issued lottery ticket.

19. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 10, characterised in - that the issuing means is a printer, e.g., a thermal printer.

20. (*currently amended*) A system as disclosed in claim 10, characterized in

- that the information elements are selectable from the group of: ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine identity, time of stake, lottery ticket number series, e.g. with start and end number, lottery ticket serial number or control code, monetary value of the stake, number of tickets, the time of the draw, the deadline for playing the lottery, customer related identification, graphic elements, optional guiding information.

21. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 11, characterised in

-        that the serial number or control code that is provided on the lottery ticket is a code that is unique to the issued lottery ticket.

22. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 11, characterised in

-        that the issuing means is a printer, e.g., a thermal printer.

23. (*currently amended*) A system as disclosed in claim 11, characterized in

-        that the information elements are selectable from the group of: ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine identity, time of stake, lottery ticket number series, e.g. with start and end number, lottery ticket serial number or control code, monetary value of the stake, number of tickets, the time of the draw, the deadline for playing the lottery, customer related identification, graphic elements, optional guiding information.

24. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

-        that the serial number or control code that is provided on the lottery ticket is a code that is unique to the issued lottery ticket.

25. (*previously presented*) A system as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

-        that the issuing means is a printer, e.g., a thermal printer.

26. (*currently amended*) A system as disclosed in claim 12, characterized in
-        that the information elements are selectable from the group of: ~~return~~ **reverse** vending machine identity, time of stake, lottery ticket number series, e.g. with start and end number, lottery ticket serial number or control code, monetary value of the stake, number of tickets, the time of the draw, the deadline for playing the lottery, customer related identification, graphic elements, optional guiding information.

27. (*previously presented*) A method as disclosed in claim 2, characterized in
-        establishing the communication line via a TCP/IP network.

28. (*previously presented*) A method as disclosed claim 2, characterized in
-        checking in the database server the identity of the reverse vending machine against an identity-related address register to be able to announce where winning lottery tickets have been issued.

29. (*previously presented*) A method as disclosed in claim 2, characterized in
-        that the serial number or control code of the ticket is unique to the issued lottery ticket.

30. (*previously presented*) A method according to claim 2, characterized in

-         that the information elements are selected from the group consisting of:
  -         the identity of the reverse vending machine,
  -         the time of the stake
  -         the monetary value of the stake, which corresponds to the return value of the returned empty packaging,
  -         customer-related identification;
  -         a ticket number series, e.g. with start and end number,
  -         the serial number or control code of the ticket
  -         the monetary value of the stake,
  -         the number of tickets,
  -         the time of the draw,
  -         the deadline for playing the lottery,
  -         graphic elements,
  -         optional guiding information.